

Application No. 09/912,181
Amendment dated August 25, 2004
Reply to Office Action of February 25, 2004

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 21 (cancelled)

Claim 22 (currently amended): The shower head assembly of Claim 1, A shower head assembly, comprising:

a shower head housing having a water inlet and a nozzle plate, said nozzle plate having a plurality of apertures therein;

a plurality of nozzles positioned on said shower head housing in fluid communication with said apertures to provide a plurality of water outlets;

a plurality of nozzle inserts, each of said nozzles having a nozzle insert positioned therein, each of said nozzle inserts having a flexible nozzle tip protruding from said nozzle, each of said nozzle inserts having a passageway in fluid communication with said water inlet, whereby water introduced into said water inlet is ejected from the shower head through said passageway in said nozzle insert, wherein each said nozzle includes an upstream end and a downstream end, said downstream end having an aperture formed therein, said aperture having an interior dimension, and wherein a flexible nozzle tip of each said nozzle insert is positioned in said aperture and protrudes from one of said nozzles, each said nozzle tip having an exterior dimension, said exterior dimension of said nozzle tips being no larger than said interior dimension of said apertures.

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Claim 23 (currently amended): The shower head assembly of Claim 2, A shower head assembly, comprising:

a shower head housing having a water inlet and a nozzle plate, said nozzle plate having a plurality of apertures therein;

a plurality of nozzles positioned on said shower head housing in fluid communication with said apertures to provide a plurality of water outlets;

a plurality of nozzle inserts, each of said nozzles having a nozzle insert positioned therein, each of said nozzle inserts having a flexible nozzle tip protruding from said nozzle, each of said nozzle inserts having a passageway in fluid communication with said water inlet, whereby water introduced into said water inlet is ejected from the shower head through said passageway in said nozzle insert, wherein said nozzle insert is formed from an outer sleeve surrounding an inner cannulated member having said passageway formed therein, and wherein each said nozzle insert is an integral member formed from an ~~an~~ said outer sleeve surrounding ~~an~~ said inner cannulated member.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The nozzle of Claim 14, A shower head nozzle, comprising a nozzle body having a nozzle insert passageway formed therein, said nozzle having a nozzle insert positioned in said nozzle insert passageway, said nozzle insert including a flexible nozzle tip protruding from said nozzle, said nozzle insert being cannulated, whereby water introduced into said nozzle traverses said nozzle insert and is ejected therefrom, wherein each said nozzle includes an upstream end and a downstream end, said downstream end having an aperture formed therein, said aperture having an interior dimension, and wherein a flexible nozzle tip of each said nozzle insert is positioned in said aperture and protrudes from one of said nozzles, each said nozzle tip having an exterior dimension, said exterior dimension of said nozzle tips being no larger than said interior dimension of said apertures.

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Claim 25 (currently amended): The nozzle of Claim 15, A shower head nozzle, comprising a nozzle body having a nozzle insert passageway formed therein, said nozzle having a nozzle insert positioned in said nozzle insert passageway, said nozzle insert including a flexible nozzle tip protruding from said nozzle, said nozzle insert being cannulated, whereby water introduced into said nozzle traverses said nozzle insert and is ejected therefrom, wherein said nozzle insert is formed from an outer sleeve surrounding an inner cannulated member having said passageway formed therein, wherein each said nozzle insert is an integral member formed from an ~~said~~ outer sleeve surrounding ~~an~~ said inner cannulated member.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The shower head assembly of Claim 1, A shower head assembly, comprising:

a shower head housing having a water inlet and a nozzle plate, said nozzle plate having a plurality of apertures therein;

a plurality of nozzles positioned on said shower head housing in fluid communication with said apertures to provide a plurality of water outlets;

a plurality of nozzle inserts, each of said nozzles having a nozzle insert positioned therein, each of said nozzle inserts having a flexible nozzle tip protruding from said nozzle, each of said nozzle inserts having a passageway in fluid communication with said water inlet, whereby water introduced into said water inlet is ejected from the shower head through said passageway in said nozzle insert, wherein said nozzle body includes a nozzle tip passageway formed therein, said nozzle body including a shoulder positioned intermediate said nozzle insert passageway and said nozzle tip passageway, said nozzle insert comprising an outer sleeve surrounding an inner cannulated member, said outer sleeve abutting said shoulder.

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Claim 27 (currently amended): The nozzle of Claim 14, A shower head nozzle, comprising a nozzle body having a nozzle insert passageway formed therein, said nozzle having a nozzle insert positioned in said nozzle insert passageway, said nozzle insert including a flexible nozzle tip protruding from said nozzle, said nozzle insert being cannulated, whereby water introduced into said nozzle traverses said nozzle insert and is ejected therefrom, wherein said nozzle body includes a nozzle tip passageway formed therein, said nozzle body including a shoulder positioned intermediate said nozzle insert passageway and said nozzle tip passageway, said nozzle insert comprising an outer sleeve surrounding an inner cannulated member, said outer sleeve abutting said shoulder.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The shower head assembly of Claim 1, A shower head assembly, comprising:

a shower head housing having a water inlet and a nozzle plate, said nozzle plate having a plurality of apertures therein;

a plurality of nozzles positioned on said shower head housing in fluid communication with said apertures to provide a plurality of water outlets;

a plurality of nozzle inserts, each of said nozzles having a nozzle insert positioned therein, each of said nozzle inserts having a flexible nozzle tip protruding from said nozzle, each of said nozzle inserts having a passageway in fluid communication with said water inlet, whereby water introduced into said water inlet is ejected from the shower head through said passageway in said nozzle insert, wherein each said nozzle is fixably secured to said shower head housing.